

Concordia University  
History C393/3 AA + Sociology C396/3 AA  
The History and Sociology of Genocide  
Wednesdays 18:05-20:10 in N-305

1983-1984  
Newsletter 1  
14-9-83

Prof. Frank Chalk, Office: N205-16, Tel.: 879-4252 or 5893  
Prof. Kurt Jonassohn, Office: Y320-16, Tel.: 879-5940 or 5944  
Office Hours for both: Wednesdays at 20:30-21:00 (after class)  
or by appointment

### THE HISTORY AND SOCIOLOGY OF GENOCIDE

If we could learn to look instead of gawking,  
We'd see the horror in the heart of farce,  
If only we could act instead of talking,  
We wouldn't always end up on our arse.  
This was the thing that nearly had us mastered;  
Don't yet rejoice in his defeat, you men!  
Although the world stood up and stopped the bastard,  
The bitch that bore him is in heat again.

Epilogue to "The resistible rise of  
Arturo Ui." by Bertold Brecht

While the subject matter of this course does lend itself to absorbed gawking, its object is to learn to look as well as to learn from looking.

The attached course outline indicates the cases that we shall deal with and their appropriate sequence; this will help you in doing the readings at the appropriate times. Most of these readings will be included in the GENOCIDE READER which will be available for sale by the end of the month.

The grades for this course will be based on some brief abstracting assignments, one research paper, a take-home exam at the end of each term, and class participation and attendance. Details will be provided in class and in future NEWSLETTERS. Please, save this and all further NEWSLETTERS because you will need to refer to them in the future.

Here are some deadlines that we feel strongly about. By looking at them now, you will be able to organize your work over the next few weeks:

- October 12th: Hand in a brief proposal (1-2 pages) on the particular case of genocide that you have selected for your research paper.
- October 26th: Hand in a revised proposal for the research project - revised on the basis of our comments and in-class discussions. This should also include a preliminary Bibliography.

The grading system for this course will be as follows:

- 40% for the research paper
- 40% for the two take-home exams
- 10% for the assignments
- 10% for class participation and attendance

TEXTS: Leo Kuper, GENOCIDE. Penguin Books, 1981, Pb.  
is now available in the bookstore  
Norman Cohn, EUROPE'S INNER DEMONS. NY: New American Library, 1977.  
Chalk and Jonassohn, A GENOCIDE READER. mimeo., 1983.  
both of these will be sold in class



Course Outline

This outline is intended as a guide and to help you in timing your readings. The dates are only approximate because they do not include guest speakers, films, outings, or exams.

1983 -- First Term

- 14.Sept. Introduction; definitions; the U.N.Convention
- 21.Sept. Typologies of genocide
- 28.Sept. How to deal with the research paper, the take-home exams, and the library. Possibly also a guest speaker.
- 5.Oct. The Ancient Near East; Greece.
- 12.Oct. Rome and Carthage.
- 19.Oct. The Mongols; Japan.
- 26.Oct. The Crusades; the Middle Ages; the Templars.
- 2.Nov. Heresy; witchcraft; Albigensians; Waldensians.
- 9.Nov. " " " "
- 16.Nov. Visitor: Norman Cohn
- 23.Nov. Spain; Portugal; the New World (first take-home is due)
- 30.Nov. " " "

1984 -- Second Term

- 11.Jan. Pre-20th century Africa
- 18.Jan. " " "
- 25.Jan. The Americas and Oceania
- 1.Febr. Armenia
- 8.Febr. "
- 15.Febr. The Holocaust
- 22.Febr. No classes -- Mid-term break
- 29.Febr. The Holocaust
- 7.March "
- 14.March Russia
- 21.March Visitor: Leo Kuper
- 28.March Russia
- 4.April 20th century: Latin America, Africa, Asia
- 11.April " " " " (2.take-home due)

0-0-0-0-0-0